

Planning & Instruction:

In order to help teachers be most effective with using Kindles, they should have one for over the summer as they need time to figure out technology, read available texts, find appropriate features etc...

Lesson Ideas: Included in this document are sample Lesson Ideas .

1. Short stories: Many stories are available online and are downloadable via Kindle. However, if you find them on the internet and want to distribute them to the Kindle via email, they often need to be reformatted and converted to rtf. and can then easily be 'sent' to all the student Kindles.
 - "The Chilean Girls"
 - "The Lottery"
 - "Louisa Please Come Home"
 - "One Small Torch".
2. Sample readings/questions:
 - Kindle news
 - Animal Farm vocabulary
 - Immigration article
 - "One Small Torch", by Sharon Draper - students used this short story (the first chapter of *Forged by Fire*) to become familiar with their Kindles
 - "The Chilean Girls" by Mario Vargas Llosa -- Students participated in a school wide reading 'celebration' of Mario Vargas Llosa. They read "The Chilean Girls" on their Kindles, frequently using the dictionary function to understand unfamiliar vocabulary
 - "Louisa, Please Come Home" by Shirley Jackson -- provided the full text version of this short story which appears in an abridged form in the READ 180 rBook.
 - "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson -- provided as optional reading in conjunction with a READ 180 unit featuring the writing of Shirley Jackson.
3. *Self- Published Books – A word of warning:* One major challenge is identifying and weeding out self-published books from Kindle searches. Students may discover titles they think they would like to read which lack the rigor and quality provided by books published by traditional publishing houses.

As students begin using the "Kindle permission to purchase a book," faculty has the opportunity to investigate and consider the request, keeping a close eye on the listing found at Amazon.com rather than the Kindle Store interface provided via the Kindle menu. Self published material will be list "Self Published (Date)" under the publisher information in the Product Details.

Faculty may allow students to purchase self-published books; however, they should careful consideration, balancing the quality of the material with the purpose behind the book purchase and the student's particular needs.

4. *Successful books from 2010 - 2011*

- "145th street" by Walter Dean Meyers
- "100 short stories"
- Eggs by Jerry Spinelli
- Crash by Jerry Spinelli
- Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
- Sharon Flake (The Skin I'm In, Who Am I Without Him?, You Don't Even Know Me)
- Sharon Draper (Forged By Fire, "One Small Torch",)
- Rick Riordan (Lightning Thief series),

5. *Recommendations/resources for finding appropriate K-12 material:*

As of this writing, we've noticed a dearth of reading materials for students at middle reader level and below. Until Amazon works with publishers to make more middle level, hi-lo books available in Kindle format, users will have to hunt down appropriate titles outside what you might find on traditional middle and high school reading lists.

6. *Periodicals & Newspapers:* The Kindle, with access to numerous magazines and newspapers, can provide students with regular access to periodicals and newspapers. This exposure to current events can directly benefit all students. Moving forward, we hope to see Amazon release more "kid-friendly" news publications. Currently, most periodicals and newspapers are targeted at the adult reader.

7. *Online resources for suggested reading, with focus on materials for reluctant/remedial readers:* Building on comments above, titles discovered from these sources may not yet be available in Kindle format. Request they be made available and keep looking for alternatives.

- [Adolescent Literacy](#)
- [K-12 Flexbooks - customizable, standards-aligned, free digital textbooks for K-12](#)
- [YALSA Book Awards](#)
- See all under Selected Booklists for general population, especially those below for reluctant readers:
- [Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers](#)
- [Teens' Top Ten](#)
- [ALSC Hi-Lo Booklist for upper elementary](#)
- [Multnomah County Library School Corps: High Interest Books for High School Students Reading Below Grade Level](#)

- Orca Book Publishers - many for sale on Amazon; most not yet available on Kindle
- [Orca Soundings \(Teen Fiction for Reluctant Readers\)](#)
- [Orca Currents \(Middle-School Fiction for Reluctant Readers\)](#)
- [Orca Sports \(short, high-interest novels that combine mystery and adventure with team sports\)](#)

General measuring tools

[Lexile Find a Book](#)